



The Task Force on Court Facilities  
455 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102-3660

**South Planning Committees Meeting Report**  
Thursday, August 31, 2000, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Fess Parker's Doubletree  
633 East Cabrillo Blvd., Santa Barbara, California 93103

<b>ATTENDEES:</b>  <b>SOUTH COMMITTEE MEMBERS:</b>  <b>PRESENT:</b> Mr. John Clarke Hon. Wayne Peterson Ms. Yvonne Campos Mr. Jerry Eaves	<b>CONSULTANTS TO THE TASK FORCE:</b> Mr. Andrew Cupples, Daniel, Mann, Johnson, & Mendenhall  Mr. Simon Park, Daniel, Mann, Johnson, & Mendenhall Mr. Alton Chow, Daniel, Mann, Johnson, & Mendenhall  <b>TASK FORCE STAFF:</b> Mr. Robert Emerson, Sr. Facilities Planner, AOC Mr. Bruce Newman, Facilities Planner, AOC  <b>GUESTS:</b>  Mr. John Van Whervin, Los Angeles Superior Court Mr. Joe Fallin, Los Angeles Superior Court
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**I. OPENING REMARKS**

Mr. Clarke welcomed the committee members and opened the meeting shortly after 9:30.

**II. MEETING SCHEDULE**

The next committee meeting date will be scheduled to review Los Angeles County Development Options.

**III. COUNTY PRESENTATIONS**

Andy Cupples and Simon Park presented an overview of the current facilities, comparing the state of existing facilities to future needs for the following counties:

**Santa Barbara County** – Mr. Andy Cupples presented the findings and evaluation of the trial court facilities in Santa Barbara County along with two development options. The county's superior court currently has 24.7 FTE judges and commissioners working out of 29 courtrooms. The population growth is expected around Santa Barbara and Santa Maria. The courts also would like to see the historical Santa Barbara Superior Court in operation. The following are some key issues affecting the development options:

- The new Santa Maria Juvenile Hall is approved and funded for design and construction.
- The District Attorney's office is being moved out of the Santa Barbara Municipal Court.
- The County is adding floor space for the Clerk of Court at the Santa Maria Superior Court.
- A second courtroom is being added to the Lompoc facility.

The development options assumed that 29 courtrooms would be needed to meet the current and future needs. The planning strategy takes into account that all courtrooms will be in full-time use into the future.

*Development Option 1 – Maximum Reuse:* Vacate one Courtroom and add one new courtroom in Santa Barbara Municipal Court. Replace the Santa Barbara Juvenile Court and locate the new Juvenile Court in Santa Maria Juvenile Hall.

Total Construction Cost	\$27,513,704
Total Project Cost	\$34,392,130

*Development Option 2 – Maximum Consolidation:* Abandon Santa Barbara Municipal Court and build a new facility in Santa Barbara. Vacate five courtrooms and add five new courtrooms in Santa Maria. Replace the Santa Barbara Juvenile Court and locate the new Juvenile Court in Santa Maria Juvenile Hall.

Total Construction Cost	\$47,922,077
Total Project Cost	\$59,902,596

**Fresno County** – Mr. Andy Cupples presented the findings and evaluation of the trial court facilities in Fresno County along with three development options. The county's superior court currently has 44 FTE judges and commissioners working out of 50 courtrooms. The population growth is expected around Fresno/Clovis. The courts would like to see the regional courts to reach a full-time operation. The following are some key issues affecting the development options:

- A county-wide courts master plan is completed but not adopted by the Board of Supervisors.
- The Federal Courthouse may become available for county courts' use.
- The County is proposing to vacate the Hall of Records adjacent to Fresno County Courthouse which will provide space for the Probation Department and other agencies to relocate from the Fresno County Courthouse.

All three development options assumed that 70 courtrooms would be needed to meet the current and future needs. The three development options include adding five additional courtrooms in the space to be vacated by the Probation Department in the Fresno County Courthouse.

*Development Option 1 – Maximum Reuse:* Reuse all existing facilities and add one new 12-courtroom (Civil) facility in Fresno. Expand Fresno County Courthouse, Juvenile Dependency Court, Clovis Court, and Selma Court.

Total Construction Cost	\$52,822,117
Total Project Cost	\$66,027,646

*Development Option 2 – Partial Consolidation:* Abandon Reedley Court, Sanger Court, Kerman Court, Kingsburg Court, Fowler Court and add a new 15-courtroom facility in Fresno. Expand Fresno County Courthouse, Juvenile Dependency Court, Clovis Court, Selma Court.

Total Construction Cost	\$60,244,837
Total Project Cost	\$75,306,046

*Development Option 3 – Maximum Consolidation:* Abandon Family Support Facility, Sanger Court, Kerman Court, Kingsburg Court, Fowler Court and add a new 17-courtroom facility in Fresno. Expand Fresno County Courthouse, Juvenile Dependency Court, Clovis Court, Selma Court.

Total Construction Cost	\$63,884,141
Total Project Cost	\$79,855,176

**San Luis Obispo County** – Mr. Andy Cupples presented the findings and evaluation of the trial court facilities in San Luis Obispo County along with two development options. The county's superior court currently has 14 FTE judges and commissioners working out of 18 courtrooms. The following are some key issues affecting the development options:

- A county-wide master plan which includes improvements to the existing jail and juvenile facilities has been completed but was not endorsed by the courts.
- The county and the courts would like to see non-court functions out of courts spaces to make room for increasing courts' needs.

The two development options assumed that 19 courtrooms would be needed to meet the current and future needs.

*Development Option 1 – Maximum Reuse:* Abandon the Veterans Building for courts use and expand the Government Center facility, Paso Robles Facility, and the Grover Beach Facility.

Total Construction Cost	\$22,491,612
Total Project Cost	\$26,989,934

*Development Option 2 – Partial Consolidation:* Abandon all facilities for courts' use except the Juvenile Services Center. Provide a new 13-courtroom facility to replace the current Government Center facility, a new 2-courtroom facility to replace the Paso Robles Facility, a new 2-courtroom facility to replace Grover Beach Facility.

Total Construction Cost	\$31,457,394
Total Project Cost	\$37,748,872

**Los Angeles County** – Simon Park presented the preliminary findings and evaluation of the trial court facilities in Los Angeles County and the general planning strategies for Los Angeles County. The following issues were discussed and conclusions were drawn related to the presentation:

- The development of the Los Angeles County database is near completion with staffing information to be completed. To date, 3117 staff is accounted for: currently Los Angeles County Superior Court has approximately 5600 staff under its payroll. Los Angeles Superior Court will provide a list of employees to assist the consultants in compiling the staff information.
- For the purposes of planning, the consultants will use the current actual number of staff (5600) as opposed to 3334 staff shown in Phase 3 Projections. For future growth, a prorated increase will be added the current actual count to match the rate of increase in Phase 3 Projections.
- The number of courtroom count shown in Tables 2.4 and 2.5 is expected to increase by 10 to 20 courtrooms as some of the courtrooms in the database is yet captured by the database reports.
- Because the space shortfall analysis is based on 3116 staff (45% lower than actual number of staff), the reported space shortfall is significantly understated. Further, the database generated Cost to Meet Current Shortfall (see slide "Expected Cost Range") is likely to increase significantly.

In terms of planning, the Planning Committee has directed the consultant to proceed with planning based on the approach as presented (See slide "Planning Approach"). This is provided that there is not a significant difference in costs between the "building addition" and "new

building”. Also, the Planning Committee agreed that the planning for the Los Angeles Superior Court should be done at a “county level” as opposed to “district level” in order to maintain consistency throughout all counties.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

A follow up planning committee meeting was proposed to review the Los Angeles County Development Options. Actual date, time and location is to be determined.